

1 Lauren M. Hausman (CA Bar No. 349514)  
2 **COPYCAT LEGAL PLLC**  
3 113 N San Vicente Blvd  
4 Suite 232  
5 Beverly Hills, CA 90211  
6 T: (877) 437-6228  
7 E: [lauren@copycatlegal.com](mailto:lauren@copycatlegal.com)

8 Jonathan Alejandrino, *pro hac vice*  
9 **COPYCAT LEGAL PLLC**  
10 3111 North University Drive  
11 Suite 301  
12 Coral Springs, FL 33065  
13 T: (877) 437-6228  
14 E: [jonathan@copycatlegal.com](mailto:jonathan@copycatlegal.com)

15 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
16 Michael Grecco Productions, Inc.

17 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
18 FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

19 MICHAEL GRECCO  
20 PRODUCTIONS, INC.

21 Plaintiff,

22 Civil Action No. 2:24-cv-04837-FLA-  
23 MAR

24 v.

25 **DECLARATION OF JONATHAN  
26 ALEJANDRINO**

27 TIKTOK, INC.

28 Defendant.

29 Jonathan Alejandrino does hereby declare pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746:

30 1. I am over the age of 18 and otherwise competent to testify.

1       2. I submit this declaration in support of plaintiff Michael Grecco  
2 Productions, Inc.’s (“Plaintiff”) Memorandum in Opposition to defendant TikTok,  
3 Inc.’s (“Defendant”) Motion for Summary Judgment or Partial Summary  
4 Judgment. I am counsel of record for Plaintiff. This declaration and the facts stated  
5 herein are based upon my personal knowledge.

6       3. A true and correct copy of the July 10, 2025, Deposition Transcript of  
7 Jemi B (the 30(b)(6) representative for Defendant) (the “Boutros Tr.”) is attached  
8 hereto as Exhibit “A.”

9       4. A true and correct copy of the July 18, 2025, Deposition Transcript of  
10 Michael Grecco (the sole owner of/ the 30(b)(6) representative for Plaintiff) (the  
11 Grecco Tr.) is attached hereto as Exhibit “B.”

12       5. A true and correct copy of Plaintiff’s Initial Disclosures (the “Initial  
13 Disclosures”) is attached hereto as Exhibit “C.”

14       6. A true and correct copy of Plaintiff’s Amended Responses to  
15 Defendant’s Request for Production (the “Responses to Defendant’s Request for  
16 Production”) is attached hereto as Exhibit “D.”

17       7. A true and correct copy of Plaintiff’s Responses to Defendant’s First  
18 Set of Interrogatories (the “Responses to Defendant’s Interrogatories”) is attached  
19 hereto as Exhibit “E.”

1 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of  
2 America that the foregoing is true and correct.

3 DATED: September 5, 2025.  
4

5 /s/ Jonathan Alejandrino  
6 Jonathan Alejandrino, Esq.  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20

## **EXHIBIT “A”**

1           A     If any? So the content gets uploaded.  
2     There's a series of different ways how content can  
3     get flagged. And depending on how the flag happens,  
4     it would go to a particular team for review.

5           Q     So upon initial upload, it is monitored to  
6     be flagged if there is anything that's, I guess, in  
7     violation of any rules?

8           A     Can you ask the question one more time?

9           Q     So when a video's uploaded, it is  
10   monitored to be flagged in the instance that it is  
11   in violation of any standards that TikTok has?

12          A     I would say that any video that gets  
13   flagged by algorithms or users reporting the content  
14   is more of how it would get flagged.

15          Q     So if I'm understanding correctly, when a  
16   user uploads the video, it's not being monitored for  
17   flagging?

18          A     There's too much content for human review,  
19   which is why there's different mechanisms in place.

20          Q     So these mechanisms, do they -- I guess,  
21   essentially, they're sort of like an AI sort of  
22   thing that's reviewing these uploaded videos.

23                MR. KEYES: Objection, vague.

24                But go ahead and answer if you can.

25          A     I'm actually not sure on those specifics

1       when it comes to AI, since it's new technology. I  
2       just know that, broadly speaking, there's different  
3       strategies in place.

4       BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

5           Q       So it's possible for someone to upload a  
6       video, and it be immediately flagged?

7           A       Yes.

8           Q       Is that the only way that these are  
9       monitored upon initial uploading, these mechanisms  
10      that you described?

11          A       I'm not sure of the full extent of that,  
12       since my expertise is more in the IP scope.

13          Q       If a user uploads content that is flagged  
14       or reported, does that page get -- or that user now,  
15       anything they upload now is more heavily scrutinized  
16       or more heavily reviewed?

17          A       So are you asking what happens before it  
18       gets flagged and enforced?

19          Q       No. So if a user is flagged or their  
20       content is flagged, are they more closely monitored  
21       moving forward?

22          A       I'm not sure about that one.

23          Q       I guess the same question, if content was  
24       removed for a user, is that user's content now more  
25       closely monitored?

1 those terms that they agree to?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Does TikTok have sort of overbroad  
4 standards or policies that guide what can be posted  
5 on TikTok's platform?

6 A The question is generalization of  
7 community guidelines?

8 Q Correct.

9 A So on TikTok, there are different  
10 verticals of community guidelines that are  
11 specified.

12 Q And if a video violates those guidelines,  
13 how can that be reported?

14 A A user can report in-app or on the most  
15 relevant Web form report so it gets to the proper  
16 team for review.

17 Q If it's not a user, then it would be those  
18 mechanisms you discussed earlier?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Is there any human review?

21 A Yes.

22 Q When does that occur?

23 A So human review happens when a video is  
24 flagged by those strategy mechanisms I was referring  
25 to earlier, as well as when someone, a human,

1 reports the content as well.

2 Q If a video is reported for violation of  
3 those standards and guidelines, how long does TikTok  
4 take to remove any content that it deems in  
5 violation?

6 A I can speak to the IP side, but not for  
7 the rest of the community guidelines, I would say.

8 [REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

1



CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

1           A     I'm not sure of the criteria. Whether all  
2     of the criteria has to be met or some of it, I'm not  
3     sure of those details.

4           Q     Of the 24 users that are in this case,  
5     would you say about half have been admitted into the  
6     Creator Program?

7           A     I truly don't know the answer to that.

8           Q     Do you have, like, a ballpark idea of how  
9     many?

10          A     Not a number, just some of the 24.

11          Q     Less than 10?

12          A     I'm not sure.

13          Q     Now, for this Creator Program and the  
14     users that are able to monetize their content, how  
15     is TikTok benefiting from this arrangement?

16          A     I would say TikTok doesn't necessarily  
17     benefit. I would say that the users who are able to  
18     monetize off of their content are the ones who are  
19     profiting themselves for doing that. TikTok doesn't  
20     necessarily take a cut from those profits gained by  
21     those creators.

22          Q     How does TikTok make money off of people  
23     uploading content?

24          A     I would say, broadly speaking, from my  
25     understanding, TikTok can make money from

1     advertisements or brand partnerships, maybe through  
2     TikTok Shop sales, but that's probably as much as I  
3     know in terms of concepts of how the company can  
4     make money.

5           Q     Does TikTok make money only on users that  
6     are admitted to the Creator Program?

7           A     Your question is, does TikTok make money  
8     from creators who make money from the Creator  
9     Program?

10          Q     Is it solely those creators?

11          A     But TikTok doesn't take a profit from  
12     their funds, so my answer would be no to that.

13          Q     So TikTok makes a profit regardless of  
14     whether the content is coming from a user admitted  
15     into the Creator Program?

16          A     TikTok generates their money from other  
17     revenue streams. It's not from the creators who are  
18     creating content and monetizing off of it.

19          Q     So you mentioned the TikTok Shop.

20     Sometimes creators advertise products from the  
21     TikTok Shop, correct?

22          A     I would say there's more of an affiliate  
23     program. I'm not sure about, like, the advertising  
24     concept with that.

25          Q     So in that instance where the creator has

1       an affiliation with the TikTok Shop, TikTok is then  
2       making money off of that specific content pushing  
3       that product?

4           A      Well, I'm not sure of those details.

5           Q      If a user is in the Creator Program, is  
6       TikTok pushing that content over non-monetized  
7       content to users -- to other users?

8           A      I'm not sure how the algorithm works. I  
9       just know for the For You feed, it's pushing content  
10      for the user who's using it to what they like or  
11      have engaged with.

15          Q      What percentage of those users or how many  
16      of those users are part of the Creator Program?

17          A      I don't know.

18          Q      You mentioned that, essentially, for a  
19      video to get onto the For You page, it's sort of  
20      curated to the individual user's For You page?

21          A      From my understanding, yes.

22          Q      I don't know if you would know this  
23      answer.

24                   So if a video is becoming viral, is it  
25      then pushed to all users' For You page or is it

CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

1 still curated to the specific user?

2 MR. KEYES: Objection, vague.

3 But go ahead and answer.

4 A Yeah, I'm not sure of that one.

5 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

6 Q So does TikTok make money off of the  
7 advertisement in partnerships that you discussed  
8 regardless of content being uploaded to TikTok?

9 A I'm not sure of the latter part.

10 Q What role does content play in TikTok's  
11 ability to earn revenue?

12 A I'm not sure.

13 Q Is TikTok's revenue tied to the amount of  
14 users on TikTok?

15 A I don't know.

16 Q When a user is in the Creator Fund, is the  
17 money they're making or earning dependent on the  
18 number of views or clicks or visits?

19 A I'm not sure of the criteria. Yeah, I  
20 think that information may be available on TikTok's  
21 website, the criteria, that is.

22 Q I know you mentioned that, again, the For  
23 You page is sort of curated to the individual users  
24 and their likes and whatnot.

25 Does TikTok ever play a role in pushing

1 certain content out?

2 A I don't think so.

3 Q And that's all algorithm-based, correct?

4 A The For You feed that is?

5 Q Yes.

6 A Yes, yes, yes.

7 Q Are you aware if the algorithm is ever  
8 tweaked or changed?

9 A I couldn't tell you that.

[REDACTED]

21 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

22 Q What is the Gmail account?

23 A I don't know.

[REDACTED]

13 Q And you mentioned that takedown notice can  
14 be submitted in-app or other ways.

15 What are the other ways that it can be  
16 submitted besides in-app?

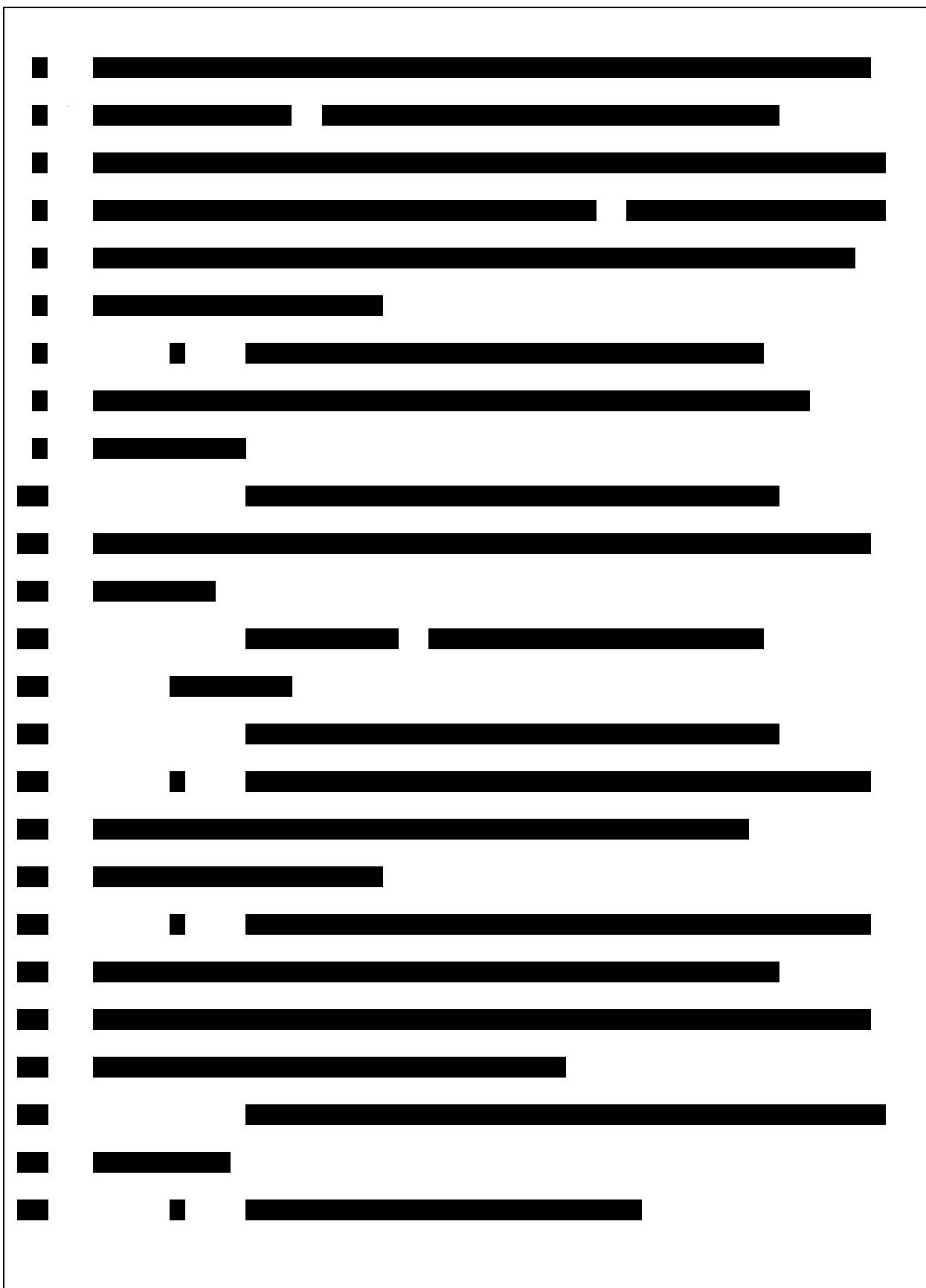
17 A It could be submitted through in-app,  
18 through the desktop version for Copyright and  
19 Trademark Notice and Takedowns. It can be submitted  
20 if someone sent it to the Gmail inbox. I just don't  
21 know what the e-mail is.

22 And the other way that it could be  
23 submitted is through an internal database where we  
24 have trusted partners who can submit those notice  
25 and takedowns in that system.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL



22 Q Okay. Just to confirm, that Gmail is the  
23 copyright@tiktok.com?

24 A Correct.

**ANSWER** The answer is (A). The first two digits of the number 1234567890 are 12.

1 if I've seen this specific one to this user and  
2 video ID, I can't address that. But the nature of  
3 the document you're showing, I'm familiar with it.

4 Q What type of document is this?

5 A This looks to be a DMCA notice off the  
6 bat. I don't know if there's more to scroll  
7 through.

8 Q I'll give it a scroll.

9 A Yes. So this is -- how do I say this --  
10 an e-mailed version versus a template that the Web  
11 form and in-app reporting system has.

12 Q Can you see where this was -- what e-mail  
13 this was addressed to?

14 A Copyright@tiktok.com.

15 Q And is that TikTok's designated DMCA  
16 e-mail?

17 A Correct.

18 Q Can you see when this e-mail was dated?

19 A January 26th, 2024.

20 Q And are you aware of when this e-mail  
21 would have been received?

22 A If the system was working correctly, we  
23 would have received it on that date.

24 Q And when would the e-mail or this document  
25 have been actually viewed?

1 information that we've already testified is  
2 attorney-client privileged communications.

3 A Well, I was going to say, so the notice  
4 and takedowns received from Mr. Grecco, they were  
5 reviewed by the legal team specifically.

6 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

7 Q Is that typical?

8 A Typically, IP ops would have been  
9 involved, but I think given the nature of the  
10 circumstance, that's why it was escalated to the  
11 legal team.

12 Q So in this instance, and I guess with  
13 Mr. Grecco's photos, they were already by the legal  
14 team?

15 A From my understanding.

16 Q Was there any role that an IP operator  
17 played in this review?

18 A Not in these DMCA reviews, no.

19 Q So this was not -- this did not follow the  
20 typical procedure that TikTok has for DMCA takedown  
21 notices; is that fair to say?

22 A Yeah, given the nature of how these  
23 reports were taken into the system.

24 Q And so you said the legal team is the one  
25 who reviewed them and made the determination.

1                   Are you aware of what the determination  
2        was?

3                   A      I only know the determination was that  
4        they didn't hit on policy. But in terms of the  
5        assessment, I wasn't privy to that.

6                   Q      What do you mean "they didn't hit on  
7        policy"?

8                   A      Our internal policies for copyright.

9                   Q      Can you be more specific?

10                  A      The descriptors and guidelines used to  
11       make a determination.

12                  Q      What specific policy did TikTok apply that  
13       allowed it to not be considered warranted for  
14       removal?

15                  A      Well, I wasn't a part of the assessment  
16       and wasn't included in the conversations for the  
17       assessment, so I can't answer that.

18                  Q      Did you not review any documents  
19       pertaining to that assessment in preparation for  
20       this deposition?

21                  A      No. That wasn't my role in this.

22                  Q      So is it fair to say you're not aware of  
23       any of the reasoning for any of the photos at issue  
24       and their evaluation in review?

25                  A      Can you ask the question again, please?

1 Q So is it fair to say that you are not  
2 familiar nor aware of the reasoning as to why  
3 certain photos at issue were not removed?

4 A Other than saying that it didn't hit the  
5 policy guidelines and that legal made that decision,  
6 I can't speak further to that.

7 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm going to show you  
8 what I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 4.

9 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 4  
10 was marked for Identification.)

11 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

12 Q Do you see that here?

13 A I see Exhibit 4.

14 Q And what is this document?

15 A It's a Copyright Infringement Notice.

16 Q And can you see who this was e-mailed to?

17 A Copyright@tiktok.com.

18 Q Do you see when this e-mail was dated?

19 A March 20th, 2024.

20 Q And would that have been the same day that  
21 it was received in the Gmail?

22 A In our operations if everything was  
23 working perfectly, that is when we would have  
24 received it.

25 Q Are you aware of when this was actually

1 viewed or reviewed this e-mail?

2 A Is the question -- sorry -- asking if I  
3 know or when it was?

4 Q Do you know when it was actually viewed?

5 A I don't know.

6 Q Do you know if this content was removed?

7 A Based on the URL, I can't tell.

8 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I can move on to the  
9 next one. I'm going to be showing you what I  
10 am marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 6.

11 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 6  
12 was marked for Identification.)

13 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

14 Q I will go ahead and scroll through the  
15 document for you. It is three pages.

16 Do you know what this document is?

17 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of what  
18 looks to be a Copyright Infringement Notice.

19 Q And who was this addressed to?

20 A The e-mail it was addressed to,  
21 copyright@tiktok.com.

22 Q And can you tell me the date of the  
23 e-mail?

24 A March 19th, 2024.

25 Q When was this received?

1 A I don't know when it was received.

2 Q When was it viewed?

3 A I don't know when it was viewed.

4 Q Was it removed?

5 A I can't tell based on the URL if it was  
6 removed or not.

7 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now showing you what  
8 I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 7.

9 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 7  
10 was marked for Identification.)

11 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

12 Q I will once again scroll through with you.  
13 It's also three pages.

14 What is this document?

15 A It appears to be an e-mail receipt or copy  
16 for a Copyright Infringement Notice.

17 Q And who was this addressed to?

18 A It appears that the e-mail is  
19 copyright@tiktok.com.

20 Q And can you tell me the date of this  
21 notice?

22 A The notice says March 21st, 2024.

23 Q When was it received?

24 A I don't know.

25 Q When was it viewed?

1 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm going to show you  
2 what I will be marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit  
3 8.

4 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 8  
5 was marked for Identification.)

6 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

7 Q I'll go ahead and scroll through the  
8 document.

9 And what is this document?

10 A It appears to be an e-mail receipt of a  
11 Copyright Infringement Notice.

12 Q And who is it addressed to?

13 A The e-mail it was addressed to is  
14 copyright@tiktok.com.

15 Q When is this e-mail dated?

16 A The e-mail is dated March 27th, 2024.

17 Q When was this received?

18 A I don't know.

19 Q When was it reviewed?

20 A I don't know.

21 Q Do you know if this post was removed?

22 A Based on the URL, I can't tell if it was  
23 removed or not.

24 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm showing you what I'm  
25 marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 9.

(Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 9  
was marked for Identification.)

3 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

4 Q I will scroll through the document.

## 5 What is this document?

6 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of a  
7 Copyright Infringement Notice.

8 Q And to whom was it addressed to?

9 A The e-mail says copyright@tiktok.com.

10 Q And the date?

11 A March 18th, 2024.

12 Q And when was this one received?

13 A I don't know.

14 Q When was it actually viewed?

15 A I don't know.

16 Q And do you know if this was removed or  
17 not?

18           A     Based on the URL, I can't tell if it was  
19 removed or not.

20 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now showing you what  
21 I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 10.

22 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 10  
23 was marked for Identification.)

24 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

25 Q I'll scroll through the document as well.

1                   And what is this document?

2                   A     It looks to be an e-mail copy of a  
3     Copyright Infringement Notice.

4                   Q     And who is this addressed to?

5                   A     It's addressed to copyright@tiktok.com.

6                   Q     And when was this e-mail dated?

7                   A     Well, just to confirm, underneath  
8     copyright department towards the top, it says  
9     "Wednesday, 3/6/2024," but then there's another date  
10    saying, "March 6th, 2024."

11                  Q     I'm sorry. You said up here it says  
12    March 6th, 2024?

13                  A     Oh, my gosh. Those are the same dates.  
14    Yes.

15                  Q     Do you know when this was received?

16                  A     I don't know.

17                  Q     Do you know when this would have been  
18    viewed?

19                  A     I don't know.

20                  Q     And are you aware of whether this post was  
21    removed?

22                  A     Based on the URL, I can't tell if it was  
23    removed or not.

24                  MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now showing you what  
25    I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 11.

(Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 11  
was marked for Identification.)

3 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

4 Q And I will go ahead and scroll through  
5 this one as well.

6 And what is this document?

7 A It looks to be an e-mail copy of a  
8 Copyright Infringement Notice.

9 Q And can you tell me who this is addressed  
10 to?

11 A It's addressed to copyright@tiktok.com.

12 Q And when would this e-mail have been  
13 received?

14 A I don't know when the e-mail was received.

15 Q When was it actually viewed?

16 A I don't know when it was actually viewed.

17 Q Are you aware of whether it was removed or  
18 not?

19           A     Based on the URL, I can't tell if it was  
20 removed or not.

21 Q So I do have about, I believe, 14 of these  
22 left. So instead of just hammering you over the  
23 head with that, I'm just going to ask: Is it fair  
24 to say that the answers will be the same for every  
25 single one of the takedown notices?

CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

1 Q I'm going to stop sharing my screen.

2 Now, going back to what we discussed, is  
3 it fair to say that the steps that are typically  
4 followed when a DMCA takedown notice is received by  
5 TikTok were not followed in this case?

6 A Your question is were the steps not taken  
7 according to the normal procedure?

8 Q Yes.

[REDACTED]

A bar chart illustrating the distribution of 1000 random numbers generated between 0 and 1. The x-axis represents the numerical range from 0 to 1, while the y-axis represents the frequency or count of occurrences. The distribution is nearly uniform, with each of the 10 major bins (0-0.1, 0.1-0.2, etc.) containing approximately 100 bars, which corresponds to a frequency of 10. The bars are black and have thin white outlines.

22 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

23 Q      Earlier we discussed when users are

24 notified that their content is being removed.

25 Were any of the users in this case

1 A No.

2 Q So does this mean none of the users that  
3 their content was removed were notified?

4 A Content removed from TikTok?

5 Q Correct.

6 A So the question is: The content that  
7 TikTok removed, were any of the users notified?

8 Q Yes.

9 A So there was one content that was impacted  
10 by this from an irrelevant -- like another issue.  
11 I'm not sure what communications they got. But any  
12 time TikTok removes something, there is a form of  
13 communication.

14 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I think this is a good  
15 place to take a break. We can go off record.

16 (Lunch recess from 3:31 p.m. EST to 4:15  
17 EST.)

18 MR. ALEJANDRINO: We can go back on the  
19 record.

20 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

The image consists of a grid of black bars on a white background. The bars are arranged in a grid-like pattern, but with some variations in their lengths and positions. Some bars are long and horizontal, while others are shorter and either vertical or diagonal. The overall effect is a abstract, geometric design.

24 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I also now want to go  
25 back. Because your attorney did object when I

1 A I don't know.

2 Q When was this reviewed by TikTok?

3 A I don't know.

4 Q Was this content removed?

5 A I can't tell from this document.

6 MR. KEYES: Counsel, are you marking this  
7 at an exhibit?

8 MR. ALEJANDRINO: Yes. I specified that  
9 it will be marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit 12.

10 MR. KEYES: Okay. Thank you.

11 MR. ALEJANDRINO: Now I'm going to show  
12 you what I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 13.

13 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 13  
14 was marked for Identification.)

15 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

16 Q I will go ahead and scroll through. It is  
17 a three-page document.

18 And can you tell me what this document is?

19 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of a  
20 Copyright Infringement Notice.

21 Q Who was this addressed to?

22 A The e-mail that this was sent to was  
23 copyright@tiktok.com.

24 Q Can you tell me the date of this e-mail?

25 A The date is listed as October 29th, 2023.

1 Q And when would this e-mail have been  
2 received by TikTok?

3 A I'm not sure when TikTok received this  
4 specific e-mail.

5 Q When would they have reviewed this e-mail?

6 A I don't have that information.

7 Q And do you know if this one was removed?

8 A I can't tell based on the document itself.

9 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I will move on to what  
10 I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 14.

11 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 14  
12 was marked for Identification.)

13 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

14 Q I'll also scroll through this one. This  
15 is also a three-page document.

16 Can you tell me what this document is?

17 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of a  
18 Copyright Infringement Notice.

19 Q And to whom is this addressed?

20 A The e-mail this was sent to is  
21 copyright@tiktok.com.

22 Q And when was this received by TikTok?

23 A I don't know when this was received by  
24 TikTok.

25 Q When was it viewed by TikTok?

1           A     I'm not sure when this was viewed by  
2     TikTok.

3           Q     And was this content removed by TikTok?

4           A     I can't tell based on what's shown in  
5     front of me.

6                   MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now going to show  
7     you what I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 15.

8                   (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 15  
9     was marked for Identification.)

10   BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

11           Q     I'll also scroll through this one. This a  
12   two-page document.

13                   Can you tell me what this document is?

14           A     Do you mind scrolling down to the bottom?  
15   Thanks.

16           Q     Sure.

17           A     It appears to be an e-mail for a DMCA  
18   notice.

19           Q     Who is this addressed to?

20           A     It was addressed to copyright@tiktok.com.

21           Q     And when was this one dated?

22           A     October 13th, 2023.

23           Q     When was this received by TikTok?

24           A     I don't know.

25           Q     When was it viewed by TikTok?

1 A I don't know.

2 Q Was this content removed by TikTok?

3 A I can't tell based on what's in front of  
4 me.

5 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now going to show  
6 you what I am marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit  
7 16.

8 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 16  
9 was marked for Identification.)

10 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

11 Q I will once again scroll.

12 What is this document?

13 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of a  
14 Copyright Infringement Notice.

15 Q Who is it addressed to?

16 A It was address to copyright@tiktok.com.

17 Q Can you tell me the date of this e-mail?

18 A The date of the e-mail says March 12th,  
19 2024.

20 Q And when was this received by TikTok?

21 A I'm not sure.

22 Q When would TikTok have viewed this e-mail?

23 A I don't know.

24 Q Was this content removed?

25 A I can't tell based on what's in front of

1 me.

2 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now going to show  
3 you what I am marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit  
4 17.

5 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 17  
6 was marked for Identification.)

7 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

8 Q And I will scroll through this one as  
9 well.

10 What is this document?

11 A It appears to be a copy of a Copyright  
12 Infringement Notice.

13 Q And who is this addressed to?

14 A It was addressed to copyright@tiktok.com.

15 Q What is the date of this e-mail?

16 A The date is March 15th, 2024.

17 Q And on what date was this received by  
18 TikTok?

19 A I don't know.

20 Q On what date was this viewed by TikTok?

21 A I don't know.

22 Q And was the content removed?

23 A I can't tell based on what's in front of  
24 me.

25 MR. ALEJANDRINO: Now I'm going to show

1 you what I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 18.

2 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 18  
3 was marked for Identification.)

4 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

5 Q And I will scroll through this one as  
6 well. It's a two-page document.

7 Can you tell me what this document is?

8 A It appears to be a copyright notice and  
9 takedown e-mail copy.

10 Q Who was it e-mailed to?

11 A It was e-mailed to copyright@tiktok.com.

12 Q What is the date of the e-mail?

13 A October 13th, 2023.

14 Q And when was this received by TikTok?

15 A I don't know.

16 Q When was it viewed by TikTok?

17 A I don't know.

18 Q And was this content removed?

19 A I can't tell based on what's in front of  
20 me.

21 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now going to show  
22 you what I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 19.

23 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 19  
24 was marked for Identification.)

25

1 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

2 Q I will scroll through this one as well.

3 It's a four-page document.

4 Can you tell me what this document is?

5 A It appears to be a Copyright Infringement  
6 Notice copy of an e-mail.

7 Q To whom is it addressed to?

8 A It's addressed to copyright@tiktok.com.

9 Q What is the date of this e-mail?

10 A The date reads as February 12th, 2024.

11 Q When did TikTok receive this e-mail?

12 A I don't know.

13 Q When did TikTok view this e-mail?

14 A I don't know.

15 Q Was the content here removed?

16 A I can't tell based on what's in front of  
17 me.

18 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now going to show  
19 you what I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 20.

20 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 20  
21 was marked for Identification.)

22 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

23 Q I'll scroll through this one as well.

24 What is this document?

25 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of a

1 Copyright Infringement Notice.

2 Q And who is it addressed to?

3 A Copyright@tiktok.com.

4 Q When is this e-mail dated?

5 A The date on this e-mail reads as

6 November 17th, 2023.

7 Q When was this received by TikTok?

8 A I don't know.

9 Q When would it have been viewed by TikTok?

10 A I don't know.

11 Q And is the content listed here removed?

12 A I can't tell based on what's in front of

13 me.

14 MR. ALEJANDRINO: Now I'm showing you what

15 I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 21.

16 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 21

17 was marked for Identification.)

18 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

19 Q And I will scroll through this one. It's

20 a four-page document.

21 Can you tell me what this document is?

22 A It appears to be an e-mail of a Copyright

23 Infringement Notice.

24 Q And who is this e-mail addressed to?

25 A To copyright@tiktok.com.

1 Q When was this e-mail dated?  
2 A It reads as February 28th, 2024.  
3 Q When was the e-mail received?  
4 A I don't know.  
5 Q When was it viewed?  
6 A I don't know.  
7 Q Was the content removed?  
8 A I can't tell based on what's in front of  
9 me.

10 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now showing you what  
11 I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 22.

12 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 22  
13 was marked for Identification.)

14 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

15 Q And I will scroll through this one.  
16 What is this document?  
17 A This document appears to be a Copyright  
18 Infringement Notice.  
19 Q And who was this e-mailed to?  
20 A This was e-mailed to copyright@tiktok.com.  
21 Q When was this e-mail received?  
22 A I don't know when the e-mail was received.  
23 Q When was it viewed?  
24 A I don't know when it was viewed.  
25 Q Was the content here removed?

1 A I don't know if the content here was  
2 removed.

3 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now showing you what  
4 I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 23.

5 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 23  
6 was marked for Identification.)

7 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

8 Q I'm going to scroll through the document.

9 What is this document?

10 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of the  
11 Copyright Infringement Notice.

12 Q And who was this e-mailed to?

13 A This was e-mailed to copyright@tiktok.com.

14 Q What is the date on this e-mail?

15 A The date reads on this e-mail as  
16 November 3rd, 2023.

17 Q What date was this e-mail received?

18 A I don't know.

19 Q What date was this e-mail viewed?

20 A I don't know.

21 Q Was the content removed?

22 A I don't know based on what's in front of  
23 me.

24 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now showing what you  
25 I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 24.

1 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 24  
2 was marked for Identification.)

3 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

4 Q I will likewise scroll through the  
5 document.

6 What is this document?

7 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of a  
8 Copyright Infringement Notice.

9 Q And who is it addressed to?

10 A It is addressed to copyright@tiktok.com.

11 Q When is this dated for?

12           A       The date reads on this document as  
13   October 24th, 2023.

14 Q When was this received?

15 A I don't know.

16 Q When was it viewed?

17 A I don't know.

18 Q And was the content removed?

19 A I can't tell based on what's in front of  
20 me.

21 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now showing you what  
22 I'm marking as Exhibit 25.

23 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 25  
24 was marked for Identification.)

1 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

2 Q I will scroll through this document as  
3 well. What is this document?

4 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of a  
5 Copyright Infringement Notice.

6 Q And who is it addressed to?

7 A It's addressed to copyright@tiktok.com.

8 Q And when is this e-mail dated for?

9 A The date on this e-mail reads as  
10 October 20th, 2023.

11 Q When was the e-mail received by TikTok?

12 A I don't know.

13 Q When was it viewed by TikTok?

14 A I don't know.

15 Q And was this content removed?

16 A Based on what's in front of me, I can't  
17 make that judgment.

18 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm now going to show  
19 you what I am marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit  
20 26.

21 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 26  
22 was marked for Identification.)

23 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

24 Q I will scroll through this document.

25 Can you tell me what this document is?

1 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of a  
2 Copyright Infringement Notice.

3 Q And to whom is it addressed to?

4 A It's addressed to copyright@tiktok.com.

5 Q When is it dated for?

6 A The date on the e-mail reads as  
7 December 20th, 2023.

8 Q And when was it received by TikTok?

9 A I don't know.

10 Q When was it viewed by TikTok?

11 A I don't know.

12 Q Was the content listed removed?

13 A I can't make that judgment based on what's  
14 in front of me.

15 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I'm going to show you  
16 what I'm marking as Plaintiff's Exhibit 27.

17 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 27  
18 was marked for Identification.)

19 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

20 Q I will scroll through this document as  
21 well.

22 Can you tell me what this document is?

23 A It appears to be an e-mail copy of a  
24 Copyright Infringement Notice.

25 Q And who is it e-mailed to?

1 A The e-mail it was sent to is  
2 copyright@tiktok.com.

3 Q And what date is listed on this e-mail?

4 A The date reads as November 27th, 2023.

5 Q When did TikTok receive this e-mail?

6 A I don't know.

7 Q When did TikTok view it?

8 A I don't know.

9 Q And was the content listed removed?

10 A Based on what's in front of me, I can't  
11 make that judgment call.

12 Q I'm going to go ahead and stop sharing my  
13 screen. That is all for those.

14 I'm now going to go back to the  
15 monetization and Creator Program that we discussed  
16 earlier.

17 I know you had testified that some of the  
18 users at issue in this case are part of the Creator  
19 Program, correct?

20 A Yes.

21 Q I want to go ahead and go through the  
22 users to see which of those are admitted into the  
23 Creator Program.

24 So the first user is bellamy227. Do you  
25 know if TikTok has an agreement to admit that user

1 Q So aside from that assumption, do you have  
2 any evidence supporting the argument that plaintiff  
3 does not own these works?

4 A I think it's a valid concern because the  
5 person who takes the photo is the one who has the  
6 copyright ownership. However, the one who hires for  
7 work then owns that piece of material. So I think  
8 any supportive documentation to show for either case  
9 would help make that assessment.

10 Q But do you have any evidence showing that  
11 it's not owned by the plaintiff in this case?

12 A I don't have evidence.

13 Q I want to go up to number 5. Can you read  
14 that for me?

15 A Yes.

16 "Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole  
17 or in part, because of any alleged infringement by  
18 defendant or defendant's users constituents --"

19 Wait. Did I say that right? Sorry.

20 Q Constitutes.

21 A Oh, my gosh. My apologies.

22 "-- constitutes fair use under 17 U.S.C."  
23 I don't know how to pronounce that symbol -- "107."

24 Q What is TikTok's basis for the  
25 determination of the fair use argument?

1 MR. KEYES: Objection, calls for a legal  
2 conclusion.

3 Go ahead and answer, Ms. Boutros, if you  
4 can.

5 A Do you mind repeating the question?

6 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

7 Q What is TikTok's basis for asserting fair  
8 use?

9 MR. KEYES: Same objection.

10 A So TikTok's assessment is based on what is  
11 within the DMCA, Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

12 The fair use is the word "declaration" or  
13 "outline" in there is what TikTok leans on.

14 Q What specifically is TikTok leaning on?

15 A Within fair use, it's my understanding  
16 that there's four criterias for the work to be  
17 considered for that.

18 Q And TikTok feels that some of these  
19 content that were left up fall into that category?

20 A Well, legal made that assessment.

21 Q Understood.

22 I am now going to go to 11. If you can  
23 read that one for me as well.

24 A Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole  
25 or in part, because defendant did not and does not

1 more monetary gain is met, and I don't think that's  
2 an accurate statement to be making.

3 Q So what determines the monetary gain by  
4 TikTok?

5 MR. KEYES: Objection, asked and answered.

6 But go ahead and answer again if you can,  
7 Ms. Boutros.

8 A To the best of my ability, knowing how  
9 TikTok generates money, it's through advertisements  
10 or partnership brand deals, and maybe through  
11 e-commerce channels like TikTok Shop.

12 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

13 Q When you say "advertisements," where are  
14 these advertisements located?

15 A So advertisements, they typically have a  
16 sticker in the video where it says "sponsored" or  
17 "promoted content."

18 Q And so if the content is sponsored, does  
19 that directly correlate to the Creator Program?

20 A I don't think so.

21 Q So how does TikTok determine when to  
22 sponsor content?

23 A I don't have the answer to that.

24 And to be clear, TikTok doesn't sponsor  
25 content on their own merit. The user who wants to

1           A     "Identify all employees or persons  
2 involved in reviewing the DMCA takedown notices and  
3 any subsequent responsive actions taken therein."

4           Q     And if you want to read the portion of the  
5 answer starting with "subject to"?

6           A     Sure.

7                 "Subject to and without waiving the  
8 foregoing objections, defendant incorporates its  
9 objections and response to interrogatory number 12  
10 and adds that its counsel has reviewed the allegedly  
11 infringing uses of the work. No subsequent  
12 responsive actions have been taken because the  
13 allegedly infringing uses of the work qualify as  
14 fair use."

15          Q     And what does a fair classification mean?

16          A     A fair of a classification mean?

17          Q     What does a fair classification mean or  
18 qualification?

19          A     Did I read that on the document, a fair  
20 qualification?

21          Q     It qualifies as fair use.

22          A     So the question is: How does this qualify  
23 as fair use?

24          Q     Yes.

25                 MR. KEYES: Objection, asked and answered.

1 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

Q You can answer the question.

3           A     Well, my understanding is that legal made  
4 the assessment for fair use.

A bar chart illustrating the distribution of 1000 samples across 10 categories. The x-axis represents the number of samples (0 to 1000), and the y-axis represents the category index (0 to 9). Category 0 has 1 sample. Categories 1 through 8 each have 100 samples. Category 9 has an additional unlabeled bar extending to approximately 950 samples.

Category	Number of Samples
0	1
1	100
2	100
3	100
4	100
5	100
6	100
7	100
8	100
9	100
Unlabeled	~950

18 MR. ALEJANDRINO: I think this is a good  
19 place to take a break. I'm just going to  
20 review my notes, see if I have anymore  
21 additional questions.

22 We can go off record.

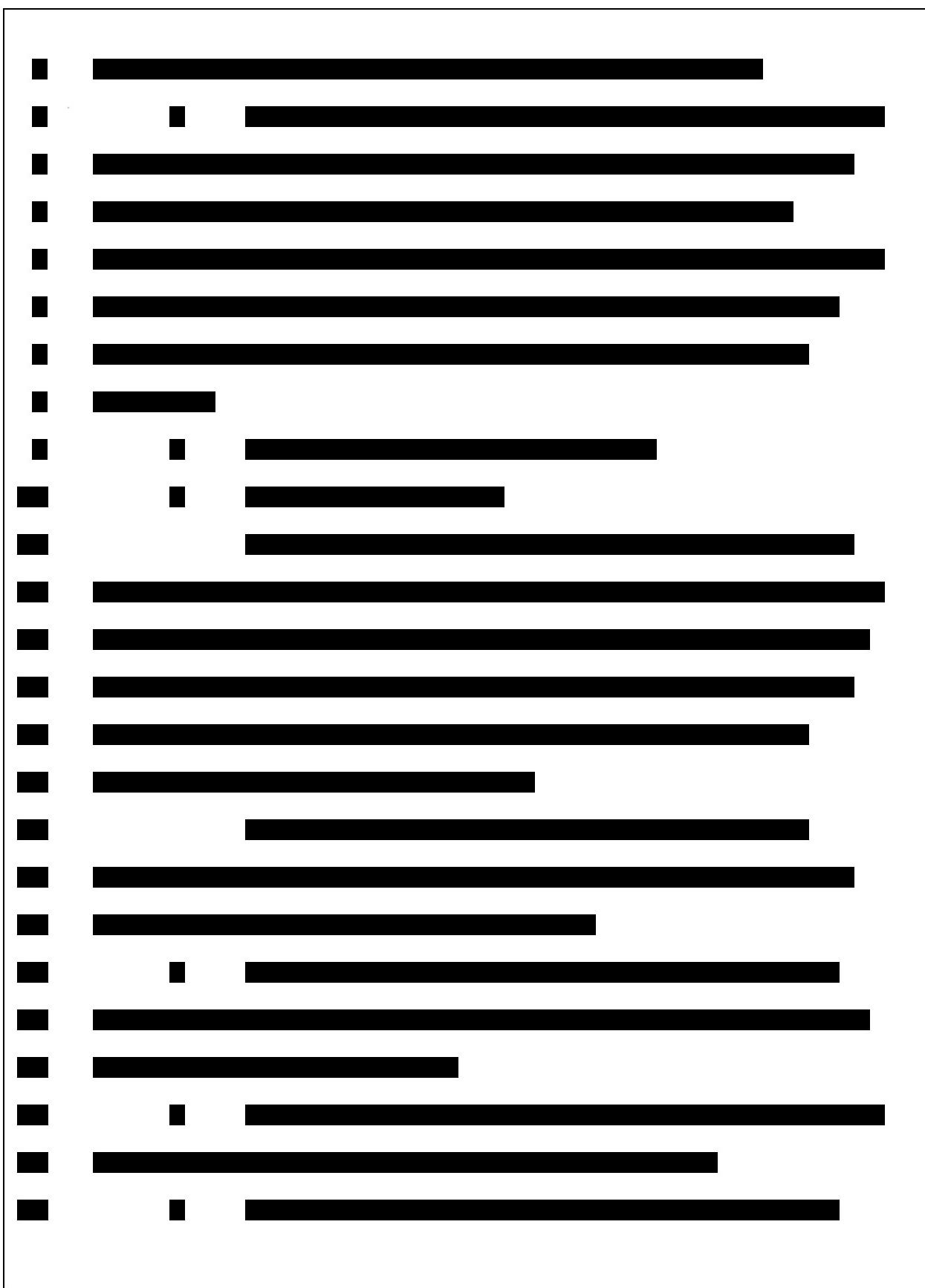
23 (Recess from 5:20 p.m. EST to 5:34 p.m.  
24 EST.)

25

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

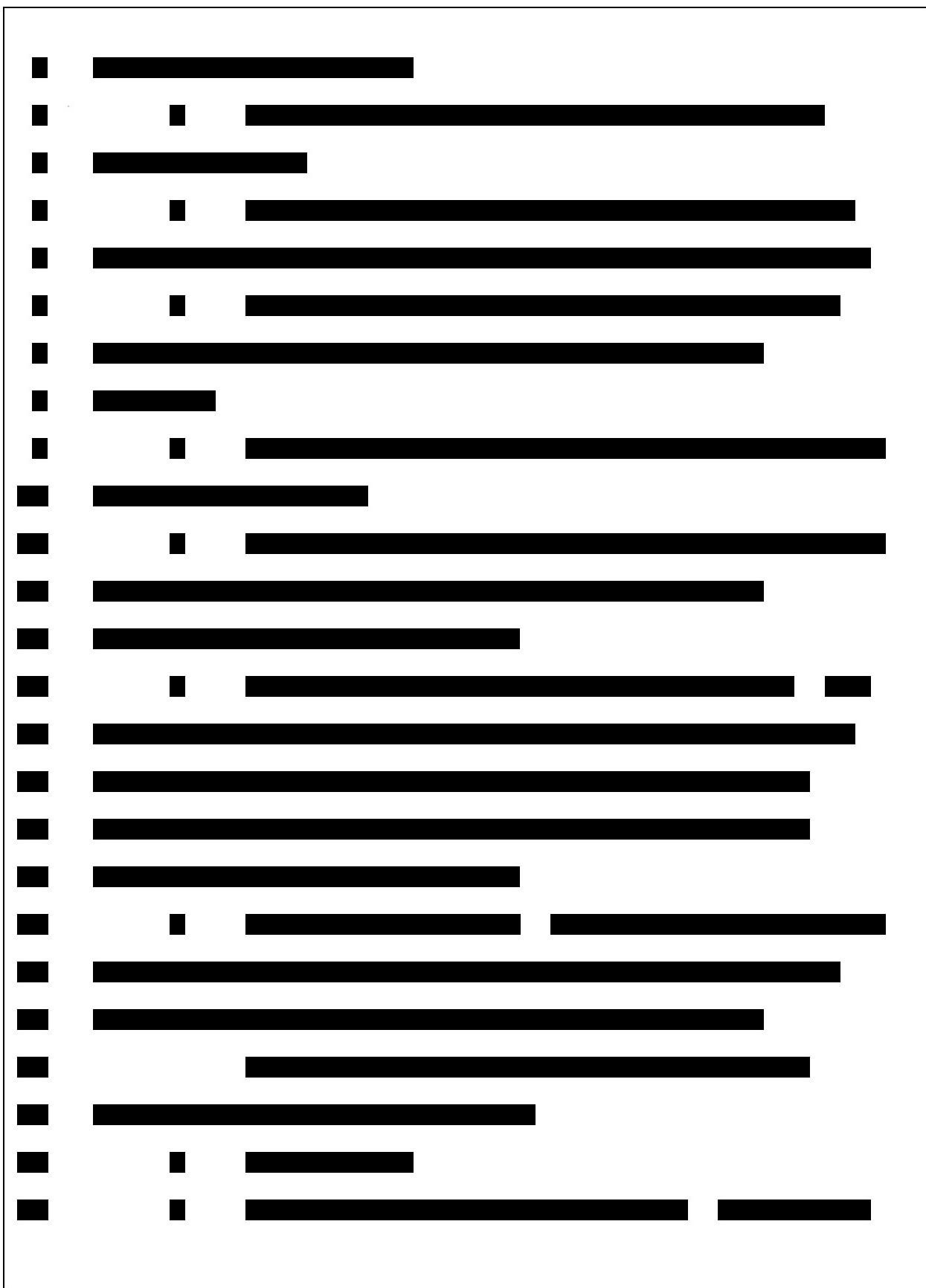
CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

12 Q We did go through all the takedown notices  
13 and the exhibits that were sent to TikTok.

14 Just to clarify, your testimony is that  
15 you did not know when any of those notices were  
16 actually received or reviewed?

17 A Correct.

18 Q And you also don't know if the images  
19 themselves were removed?

20 A I know there were a number of images. I  
21 also know that there were some videos that weren't  
22 removed.

23 Q Do you know the specific content that was  
24 removed?

25 A Not off the top of my head.

1 Q And the ones that were not removed and  
2 remained up, you don't know why they were determined  
3 to be fair use or an exception to the copyright  
4 infringement?

5 MR. KEYES: Objection, asked and answered.

6 Mischaracterizes prior testimony, too.

7 But go head and answer if you can.

8 A Yeah, legal made that assessment.

9 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

10 Q Would you say that knowing when a takedown  
11 notice was received and reviewed would be important  
12 information to know?

13 A It is information that should be included  
14 in a report, yes.

15 Q Do you know why you were designated as  
16 TikTok's 30(b)(6) corporate representative?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Why is that?

19 A I'm someone who oversees and is in  
20 operations, so I would be able to speak to the  
21 details of our operations.

22 Q Along those lines, what exactly is your  
23 scope at TikTok?

24 A My scope includes reviewing notice and  
25 takedown reports themselves. I also do risk

## **EXHIBIT “B”**

1           Q. All right. Does Michael Grecco Productions  
2 have any employees?

3           A. Subcontractors.

4           Q. Okay. So by "subcontractors," I take it  
5 you mean independent contractors?

6           A. Correct.

7           Q. And how are your subcontractors compensated  
8 for the work they do with Michael Grecco  
9 Productions?

10          A. With U.S. dollars.

11          Q. Okay. I take it you then would provide  
12 them with a W-9 at the end of the year? How does  
13 that work?

14          A. A 1099.

15          Q. A 1099. Thank you. Yes.

16          Okay. So let's go back to Exhibit 2, if  
17 you would, sir.

18          A. Okay.

19          Q. You see there are 26 topics here listed  
20 here; right?

21          A. Let me open it up.

22          Yes.

23          Q. Are there any topics on this list that you  
24 are not prepared to talk about today?

25          A. I'm going to answer every question to the

1 compensated through a return of officer loans.

2 Q. Okay. At any point did you personally,  
3 Michael Grecco, have a written employment agreement  
4 with Michael Grecco Photography, Inc.?

5 A. Whatever agreement I have is in my  
6 operating agreement.

7 Q. Okay. So you understand, an operating  
8 agreement, that's not an employee agreement; right?

9 A. I believe it might stipulate my role in the  
10 company and copyrights and things like that,  
11 so . . .

12 Q. Okay. Has that operating agreement been  
13 produced in this case?

14 A. I'm not sure. I don't have the -- all the  
15 entire --

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. -- document request. But again, I'm happy  
18 to produce it.

19 Q. Okay. I appreciate that. Thank you.

20 A. Sure.

21 Q. Why did you change -- or why did you form  
22 Michael Grecco Photography, Inc.?

23 A. For a combination of -- for a combination  
24 of liability and tax reasons.

25 Q. All right. Now, for images created after

1 net. The gross received by the company.

2 Q. So when you testified earlier that nobody  
3 other than your law firm has a financial stake in  
4 the outcome of this matter, that was incorrect,  
5 wasn't it?

6 MR. ALEJANDRINO: Object to form.

7 THE WITNESS: I don't think I -- I don't  
8 think I testified to that. No one has a -- this is  
9 a commission that I agree to pay a subcontractor for  
10 work she's done.

11 BY MR. KEYES:

12 Q. Yeah, but she only gets paid --

13 A. You could say my wife has a stake in it  
14 too, but it's the company's case, and --

15 Q. But Torina only gets paid for her efforts  
16 in finding these alleged infringements if you  
17 ultimately get paid in the case; right?

18 A. That's true.

19 Q. All right. And so is it your position that  
20 she doesn't have a financial stake in the outcome of  
21 this litigation?

22 A. Looking at this report and seeing that  
23 she's found some of these, which I wasn't aware of  
24 earlier, no, that's not my testimony. It looks like  
25 she found some of these herself.

1       **who captured these screenshots in Exhibit 21?**

2           A. One of our workers. You would have to ask  
3 Ms. Waterman.

4           Q. Okay. Now, this very first one on the very  
5 first page of Exhibit 21, there is a video posted by  
6 bellamy227.

7           **Do you see that?**

8           A. I do.

9           Q. And it appears that it was posted on 10/30,  
10 October 30th of 2022?

11           **Do you see that?**

12           A. I do.

13           Q. And the Xena image shown here on this  
14 screen capture, that's one of your images; right?

15           A. It is.

16           Q. It's actually the first photograph, isn't  
17 it?

18           A. It is.

19           Q. Did you personally review this video before  
20 sending a takedown notice?

21           A. They send me all the cases to approve.

22           Routinely if it's a social media use and there's no  
23 attribution to me and no hotlink to me -- and I  
24 don't have a TikTok account so you couldn't hotlink  
25 to me.

Confidential

Michael Grecco Productions, Inc. vs.  
TikTok, Inc.

Michael Grecco

1                   But if it was Instagram and you hotlinked  
2 to me and, you know, you put my handle there, we  
3 wouldn't be sending a takedown notice. We would  
4 consider that publicity and marketing.

5                   For TikTok, since I don't have an account,  
6 they -- it's just automated that, if there's no  
7 license, that they send a takedown notice.

8                   **Q. So my question was, did you view -- you  
9 personally, Mr. Grecco, did you view this video --**

10                  A. Well, I answered you in a bit of a more  
11 informative way. No, because I don't have a TikTok  
12 account, and they don't have the ability to tag me  
13 or promote my own channel, so they have carte  
14 blanche to send take down notices.

15                  **Q. Okay. So is it fair to say that, with  
16 respect to all of the videos, the alleged infringing  
17 videos involved in this suit, that you did not  
18 review them before your company issued takedown  
19 notices?**

20                  A. I --

21                  MR. ALEJANDRINO: Object to form.

22                  THE WITNESS: I think I -- I think I looked  
23 at some of them and was sort of flabbergasted at how  
24 much stuff was on TikTok that was mine without a  
25 license.

1                   So I believe I looked at it. I did not  
2 look at every one, and I did not approve every one.

3 BY MR. KEYES:

4                   **Q. Okay. But with respect to this very first**  
5 **video that involves your first photograph, did you**  
6 **look at this one before you --**

7                   A. I don't -- I don't -- I don't recall which  
8 ones I looked at and which ones I didn't.

9                   **Q. Let me finish my question, please, sir, and**  
10 **then I'll let you answer.**

11                  **So do you know if you looked at this very**  
12 **first video before your company issued a takedown**  
13 **notice?**

14                  A. I do not remember if I looked at this one  
15 in particular.

16                  **Q. Who made the determination that it was**  
17 **infringing?**

18                  A. Sans license and sans being tagged, it's  
19 infringing so that's my rule. That's what I'm  
20 willing to do.

21                  So the team looks for a license. They look  
22 to see if anyone's licensed it or if it was licensed  
23 by, you know, Iconic or -- you know, what the dates  
24 were, if it was potentially licensed by Getty. And  
25 if it's not, they send a takedown notice.

1           **Q. Did your company consider the doctrine of**  
2           **fair use before issuing the takedown notice with**  
3           **respect to this first video?**

4           A. No. Tiktok's a commercial platform and  
5         meets none of the four criteria of fair use. So  
6         that's a BS defense that every infringer has no  
7         defense uses and we hear every day. That's like --  
8         we call it the FU defense for a reason.

9           **Q. So is it fair to say, then, sir, that**  
10          **before your company issued any of the takedown**  
11          **notices in this case, that you didn't consider**  
12          **whether -- you didn't consider fair use?**

13           MR. ALEJANDRINO: Object to form.

14           THE WITNESS: I still don't consider fair  
15         use. There's no fair use defense here on a  
16         commercial platform.

17           BY MR. KEYES:

18           **Q. And are you aware of any case that stands**  
19          **for that proposition?**

20           A. Yeah. We win -- we win fair use cases all  
21         the time on summary judgment. Everyone uses the  
22         fair use defense.

23           **Q. But you just made the definitive statement,**  
24          **sir, that there's no such fair use on a commercial**  
25          **platform like TikTok, and I'm asking if you're aware**

1       **of any legal authority.**

2                   **Or is that just Michael Grecco on**  
3                   **copyright?**

4                   MR. ALEJANDRINO: Object to form.

5                   THE WITNESS: That's the experience --

6                   MR. ALEJANDRINO: I do want to clarify,  
7 Mr. Keyes, are we -- because you keep saying Michael  
8 and you. And I know this is, like, a 30(b)(6) as  
9 well as Mr. Grecco's personal deposition.

10                  MR. KEYES: Yeah.

11                  MR. ALEJANDRINO: Are these questions  
12 directly at Michael Grecco or Michael Grecco  
13 Productions, Inc.?

14                  MR. KEYES: Well, I asked specifically  
15 whether his company considered fair use before  
16 issuing any of these takedown notices.

17 BY MR. KEYES:

18                  **Q. And my understanding, Mr. Grecco, is that**  
19                  **you said no.**

20                  A. Well, I -- look. We always consider fair  
21 use. If I see something used in an educational  
22 informational site, you know, for educational  
23 purposes with a not-for-profit company, I won't  
24 approve that case. If I see -- you know, if I see  
25 someone criticizing or critiquing one of my works,

Confidential

Michael Grecco Productions, Inc. vs.  
TikTok, Inc.

Michael Grecco

1 then it's obviously protected by the first  
2 amendment, and it's fair use.

3 If I see something that's truly  
4 transformative, then we would consider fair use.

5 But that's not the case here with TikTok.

6 There's -- there's no criteria that I see from my 40  
7 years of experience handling -- 30-some-odd years of  
8 experience handling my copyright cases that relates  
9 to fair use here.

10 So no, we didn't consider it for the  
11 entirety of the platform because there's no fair use  
12 defense here from my perspective.

13 BY MR. KEYES:

14 **Q. And did you seek legal counsel with respect**  
15 **to fair use in this case?**

16 A. Yes. Legal counsel wouldn't have taken  
17 this case if they really thought it was fair use.  
18 And they know it's a BS defense that everyone who  
19 has no defense uses, so . . .

20 **Q. You mentioned the phrase a few moments ago**  
21 **"truly transformative."**

22 **Remember that testimony?**

23 A. Yes.

24 **Q. What makes a use of content truly**  
25 **transformative in your judgment, sir?**

1           A. No. I don't see how that pertains to  
2 anything in the world here.

3           **Q. You don't know why they joined TikTok, do**  
4 **you?**

5           A. No.

6           **Q. Or when they joined TikTok for that matter?**

7           A. No. But again, they -- they joined for  
8 whatever reason, but they come to get entertained,  
9 and they're being entertained by my work that was  
10 stolen and not taken down by TikTok.

11           TikTok has refused to take it down. I keep  
12 telling you. Go to page 15 and -- go to page 15 and  
13 see. That video is still up.

14           **Q. So you would agree with me that you have no**  
15 **facts to show that any of these 6,000 users were**  
16 **drawn to the TikTok platform because of this video**  
17 **that appears on Exhibit 21; right?**

18           A. Well, I think that --

19           MR. ALEJANDRINO: Object to form.

20           THE WITNESS: No, I don't. But again, I  
21 think that would be pertinent if we were asking for  
22 actual damages.

23           We're not asking for actual damages. We're  
24 asking for statutory damages, I believe. I'm going  
25 to defer to my attorney on that, though.

1           **Q. Oh. So there's editorial licenses that can**  
2       **be purchased?**

3           A. Yes.

4           **Q. Oh. Print advertising?**

5           A. Yes.

6           **Q. How about digital advertising?**

7           A. Is there any other kind these days? I  
8 mean, there's hardly any magazines. If you're  
9 asking for commercial use, we specify what the  
10 platform is, so yes.

11          **Q. And do you have a set license agreement**  
12       **that you would provide to licensees that purchase**  
13       **photos through this website?**

14          A. It would be the usage terms that we supply  
15 in the invoice.

16          **Q. How does a customer get a license through**  
17       **this website?**

18          A. Again, the website is kind of clunky, and  
19 they usually reach out to us directly to negotiate  
20 it. But there is a cart, and you could put in the  
21 information, and you could do it in an automated  
22 fashion.

23           But most of people reach out to us, send us  
24 an email, and we negotiate a deal.

25          **Q. Okay. Is there a way to do image searches**

Confidential

Michael Grecco Productions, Inc. vs.  
TikTok, Inc.

Michael Grecco

1       **through this website?**

2           A. By text. Not --

3           **Q. Just by text?**

4           A. Correct.

5           **Q. Okay. Is this website, is it operated by**  
6       **your company?**

7           A. No.

8           **Q. Who operates it?**

9           A. A company called PhotoShelter out of  
10      New York.

11          **Q. And who is PhotoShelter?**

12          A. They're a company that provides websites  
13      for corporations and photographers.

14          **Q. PhotoShelter. So they're hosting the site?**

15          A. Correct.

16          **Q. Okay. But in terms of the revenue that's**  
17      **generated through mgpstckphotos.com, that revenue**  
18      **goes to your company; right?**

19          A. If they call me to negotiate it, it goes  
20      100 percent to us. If they happen to use the  
21      cart -- and I don't think anyone has in the past --  
22      I think PhotoShelter gets a small percentage. 20  
23      percent. Something like that.

24          **Q. On an annual basis, how much revenue does**  
25      **Michael Grecco Productions generate through**

Michael Grecco

Confidential

Michael Grecco Productions, Inc. vs.  
TikTok, Inc.

1       **licensing photographs on mgpstockphotos.com?**

2           A. It depends on the year. I mean, anywhere  
3 between -- I mean, we're working on a deal with a  
4 condominium complex in Miami which is going to be  
5 worth \$150,000. But anywhere, you know, 20,000,  
6 30,000 in licensing.

7           **Q. So let's just take the most recent year,**  
8 **the complete year.**

9           **Are you on a -- in terms of how you run**  
10 **your operation, are you on a calendar year?**

11          A. Cash basis calendar year, yes.

12          **Q. So for the calendar year 2024, how much**  
13 **licensing revenue did you generate through**  
14 **mgpstockphotos.com approximately?**

15          A. I don't know. People -- people reach out  
16 to us to license. I don't necessarily know. If  
17 they've seen the picture there, they've seen it on  
18 my website, they saw it on the Days of Punk website.  
19 I'm not sure. There's -- we don't keep records of  
20 who has found it on PhotoShelter.

21          **Q. Okay. Fair enough. But in terms of you**  
22 **did mention that people can actually go on to that**  
23 **website and add photos to a cart.**

24          A. People can license through the platform;  
25 correct.

Michael Grecco

Confidential

Michael Grecco Productions, Inc. vs.  
TikTok, Inc.

1           **Q. Right. So I'm referring specifically to**  
2       **the revenue generated through -- by people that got**  
3       **on the platform and licensed works?**

4           A. Zero.

5           **Q. Zero for 2024?**

6           A. Yeah. But that -- again, no one uses --  
7       the cart, usually they want to have a confirmation  
8       of a specific license, they want to give us the  
9       details, the print run, the record cover run, the da  
10      da da da da da, you know, the space, how big it's  
11      being used, da da da, and we usually negotiate that.

12          **Q. Okay. So for 2023, same answer? Zero in**  
13       **terms of the amount of revenue generated by somebody**  
14       **getting on to MGP Stock Photos and purchasing a**  
15       **license?**

16          A. Using their cart; that is correct.

17          **Q. Okay.**

18          A. How much revenue we got because they were  
19       posted there and they contacted us, it is not  
20       correct. It is not 0.

21           But using the cart, I will in a limited  
22       fashion say you're correct.

23          **Q. Would it be the same answer for 2022?**

24          A. Yep.

25          **Q. Same answer for 2021?**

Confidential

Michael Grecco Productions, Inc. vs.  
TikTok, Inc.

Michael Grecco

1           A. Yeah. I -- there was one instance where  
2 someone bought a print using the cart, and I think  
3 that in the entire history of us using that  
4 PhotoShelter site, that was the only time someone  
5 used the cart.

6           **Q. Okay.**

7           A. Amanda Beard's husband bought her a print,  
8 the Olympian, of when I shot her, so . . .

9           MR. KEYES: Exhibit 24, please.

10           (Exhibit 24, 10/12/94 Stock Invoice,  
11 GRECCO\_000608-GRECCO\_000607, marked for  
12 identification.)

13           THE WITNESS: Okay.

14 BY MR. KEYES:

15           **Q. Do you recognize this document?**

16           A. I do.

17           **Q. And what is it?**

18           A. It's an invoice.

19           **Q. Who is Delphi Internet?**

20           A. It was an Internet service provider back in  
21 the day.

22           **Q. Okay. And this is one of those invoices  
23 that you drafted; right?**

24           A. Well, I drafted it to Maggie, yeah. I  
25 drafted it to Maggie, and I think she did the

1 commercial platform. I mean, we -- we look at fair  
2 use in a serious manner when -- in class lessons.  
3 We might consider it for a not-for-profit. We might  
4 consider it when there's actual criticism or satire  
5 for the image itself, not to use the image for  
6 satire.

7 So we do view these things pretty  
8 carefully. I'm familiar with the four tests of fair  
9 use, and we never felt that that qualified for any  
10 of it.

11 **Q. So is it fair to say that, when you are  
12 considering enforcing your copyrights, fair use is  
13 one of those considerations?**

14 MR. KEYES: Objection. Leading.

15 THE WITNESS: Yes. I mean, we don't --  
16 look. We don't pursue cases that are -- that are  
17 not good cases. And if it clearly looks like a case  
18 of fair use, we don't bother. We have too many  
19 sightings for too many different cases to focus on  
20 things that were -- that are not going to be  
21 successful, so . . .

22 BY MR. ALEJANDRINO:

23 **Q. Is that one of the steps that's taken when  
24 sending out a DMCA takedown notice?**

25 A. Well, I approve all cases. And I'll do

## **EXHIBIT “C”**

1                   **COMPUTATION OF DAMAGES**

2                   Plaintiff seeks either actual damages/disgorgement of Defendant's profits or  
3 statutory damages in this lawsuit. Defendant's profits are currently unknown (as  
4 discovery is pending). Plaintiff will make an election of actual  
5 damages/disgorgement or statutory damages at the appropriate time. Because  
6 Plaintiff licenses its work on an annual basis, Plaintiff would calculate its actual  
7 damages by multiplying the license it would have charged by the number of years  
8 the photographs were published. Plaintiff needs further discovery of Defendant's  
9 usage to determine the license that would have been charged.

10                  **INSURANCE AGREEMENTS**

11                  Plaintiff is not aware of any insurance agreement relevant to the claims  
12 asserted in this lawsuit.

13                  Dated: April 15, 2025.

14                  **COPYCAT LEGAL PLLC**

15  
16                  By: /s/ Lauren M. Hausman  
17                  Lauren M. Hausman, Esq.  
18                  Jonathan Alejandrino, Esq. (*pro hac vice*)  
19                  Attorneys for Plaintiff  
20                  Michael Grecco Productions, Inc.  
21  
22  
23  
24

## **EXHIBIT “D”**

1       **RESPONSE:** Plaintiff objects to this request as not relevant to the claims or  
2 defenses at issue in this lawsuit. The identity and/or existence of other infringers  
3 has no bearing on whether Defendant committed infringement or any of the actual  
4 defenses asserted by Defendant.

5              18. Documents sufficient to Identify all legal proceedings relating to one  
6 or more of the Works or one or more Copyrights for the Works, including without  
7 limitation all federal court actions and all copyright claims board proceedings.  
8

9       **RESPONSE:** Plaintiff objects to this request as not relevant to the claims or  
10 defenses at issue in this lawsuit. The identity and/or existence of other infringers  
11 has no bearing on whether Defendant committed infringement or any of the actual  
12 defenses asserted by Defendant.

13              19. All Communications that Plaintiff has sent to any third party relating  
14 to the unauthorized use of one or more of the Works, including without limitation  
15 all demand letters, cease and desist letters, emails, and DMCA takedown notices.  
16

17       **RESPONSE:** Plaintiff objects to this request as not relevant to the claims or  
18 defenses at issue in this lawsuit. The identity and/or existence of other infringers  
19 has no bearing on whether Defendant committed infringement or any of the actual  
20 defenses asserted by Defendant.

21              20. All Communications between Plaintiff and any third party relating  
22 to the unauthorized use of one or more of the Works.  
23

1           **RESPONSE:** Plaintiff objects to this request as not relevant to the claims or  
2 defenses at issue in this lawsuit. The identity and/or existence of other infringers  
3 has no bearing on whether Defendant committed infringement or any of the actual  
4 defenses asserted by Defendant.

5           21. Documents sufficient to identify all third parties who Plaintiff has  
6 authorized to use one or more of the Works.

7           **RESPONSE:** Documents sufficient to this request are being produced  
8 contemporaneously herewith.

9           22. Copies of all DMCA takedown notices that Plaintiff sent to  
10 Defendant relating to the Works, the Copyrights for the Works, or the TikTok users  
11 identified in Exhibit N to the Complaint.

12           **RESPONSE:** Documents responsive to this request are being produced  
13 contemporaneously herewith.

14           23. All Documents relating Plaintiff's decision to send DMCA  
15 takedown notices to Defendant relating to the Works, the Copyrights for the  
16 Works, or the TikTok users identified in Exhibit N to the Complaint.

17           **RESPONSE:** Documents responsive to this request are being produced  
18 contemporaneously herewith.

19           **AMENDED RESPONSE:** Plaintiff does not have responsive documents to this  
20 request in its possession, custody, or control.

## **EXHIBIT “E”**

1 Interrogatory as overly broad, unduly burdensome, disproportionate to the needs of  
2 this case, and as seeking information irrelevant to any claims or defenses in this case  
3 to the extent it seeks information relating to “any other social media page or website  
4 controlled by Defendant.” Defendant objects to this Interrogatory to the extent it  
5 characterizes TikTok as a social media platform, which it is not.

6 Subject to and without waiving the foregoing objections, each of the allegedly  
7 infringing videos identified by Plaintiff in the Second Amended Complaint were  
8 posted to TikTok by third-party users. Defendant does not know the identities of  
9 persons who participated in the upload of such videos because Defendant does not  
10 collect that information in the regular course of business. The dates on which the  
11 allegedly infringing videos were posted to TikTok are shown in the screenshots  
12 attached as Exhibit N to the Second Amended Complaint.

13 **INTERROGATORY NO. 4:**

14 Describe the relationship (if any) between Defendant and the person  
15 purportedly responsible for uploading to and/or causing each photograph comprising  
16 the Work to be displayed on the Platform, and/or any other social media page or  
17 website controlled by Defendant.

18 **ANSWER:** Defendant incorporates each of the General Objections herein.  
19 Defendant objects to this Interrogatory as overly broad, unduly burdensome,  
20 disproportionate to the needs of this case, and as seeking information irrelevant to  
21 any claims or defenses in this case to the extent it seeks information relating to “any  
22 other social media page or website controlled by Defendant.” Defendant objects to  
23 this Interrogatory to the extent it characterizes TikTok as a social media platform,  
24 which it is not.

25 Subject to and without waiving the foregoing objections, the allegedly  
26 infringing videos were posted to TikTok by third-party TikTok users. Use of TikTok  
27

1 is subject to TikTok's Terms of Service, Intellectual Property Policy, and Community  
2 Guidelines.

3 **INTERROGATORY NO. 5:**

4       What are the terms of any agreement between Defendant and the person  
5 purportedly responsible for uploading to and/or causing each photograph comprising  
6 the Work to be displayed on the Platform, and/or any other social media page or  
7 website.

8 **ANSWER:** Defendant incorporates each of the General Objections herein.  
9 Defendant objects to this Interrogatory as overly broad, unduly burdensome,  
10 disproportionate to the needs of this case, and as seeking information irrelevant to  
11 any claims or defenses in this case to the extent it seeks information relating to "any  
12 other social media page or website controlled by Defendant." Defendant objects to  
13 this Interrogatory to the extent it characterizes TikTok as a social media platform,  
14 which it is not.

15       Subject to and without waiving the foregoing objections, the allegedly  
16 infringing videos were posted to TikTok by third-party TikTok users. Use of TikTok  
17 is subject to TikTok's Terms of Service, Intellectual Property Policy, and Community  
18 Guidelines.

19 **INTERROGATORY NO. 6:**

20       Do you contend that Defendant or any of its users was authorized and/or  
21 licensed to publish or display any of the photographs comprising the Work on the  
22 Platform, and/or any other social media page or website controlled by Defendant? If  
23 yes, describe in detail the factual basis for such contention.

24 **ANSWER:** Defendant incorporates each of the General Objections herein.  
25 Defendant objects to this Interrogatory to the extent it seeks information that is not  
26 in Defendant's possession, custody or control. Defendant objects to this  
27 Interrogatory as overly broad, unduly burdensome, disproportionate to the needs of  
28